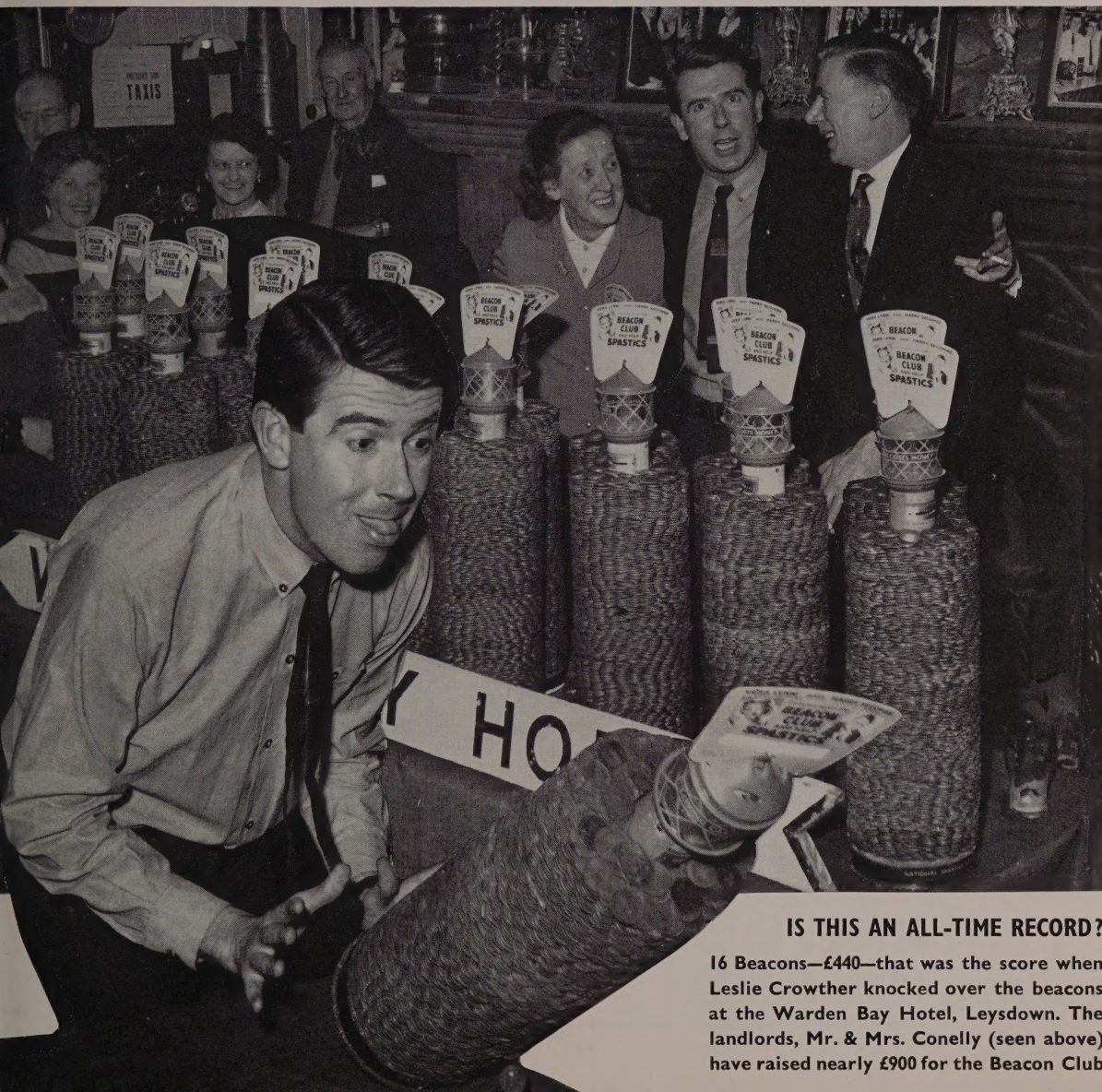


THIS ISSUE

Pictorial  
tribute to  
Mr. Stevens

# SPASTICS NEWS

FEBRUARY 1967 PRICE 6d THE MAGAZINE OF THE SPASTICS SOCIETY



## IS THIS AN ALL-TIME RECORD?

16 Beacons—£440—that was the score when Leslie Crowther knocked over the beacons at the Warden Bay Hotel, Leysdown. The landlords, Mr. & Mrs. Conelly (seen above) have raised nearly £900 for the Beacon Club



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# SPASTICS NEWS

The magazine of The Spastics Society

February 1967, Vol. XIII, No. 2, Price Sixpence. Editor: Oliver Beckett

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## THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

12 Park Crescent, London, W.1 Tel. MUSeum 5020

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# When School Has Finished

**It is always interesting to know the views of other countries on common problems.**

**Here, in an article reprinted from the Swedish magazine 'Svensk Vanföretidskrift', the writer outlines her views on after-care.**

WHEN YOU HAVE WORKED, as I have, in the same area for seven years as a physiotherapist: and have been personally concerned with the welfare of 200 handicapped persons of all ages, it is inevitable that you come to realise that there remains for all of us a great deal to be done before we come to regard the handicapped person in the same light as we do normal people.

While we accept that there is still a great deal to be done for the handicapped child before and while he is still at school, it is my firm conviction that not one of us in Sweden has seriously begun to touch the problem of what ought to happen to the handicapped when they leave school and enter into adult life.

In 1960, I obtained a scholarship which enabled me to study in England, and the primary aim of my studies was the education and care of young spastics. As England was the first country to undertake the treatment of cerebrally palsy children, I thought it likely that they had met with this problem of the care of the handicapped person when he had finished his school life.

During their school life hopes are awakened that by proper training they may be able to lead a normal existence in society. These hopes must not be allowed to die. The education and care of the handicapped MUST NOT finish at the school gate. There must be a continuation of our work, or hope will die, and the dreams that have been fostered will wither and perish, and the handicapped, the parents, the teachers and society itself will be so much the worse off.

## The importance of work

For many handicapped persons the ideal solution will be the obtaining of suitable and rewarding work. The job must be rewarding both financially, and morally. For many of them normal work is physically impossible, therefore the provision of the 'sheltered' workshop is an absolute necessity. The State must provide it and finance it, and it must be the responsibility of each Local Authority to see that their handicapped citizens are so provided for.

Most emphatically I state that unless remunerative and useful work is provided for each and every handicapped person, then the care, which we are so rightly lavishing upon each child at school, is meaningless and cruel both to the child and to its parents.

The handicapped must be given the right to be independent, to be free from abnormal financial worry, and to be able to lead a full life, to be able to marry.

## Leaving home

Parents accept the fact that a normal child will one day leave the 'nest' and make one of his own. The handicapped must be able to enjoy the same right, but in his case a 'nest' must be provided for him—a 'nest' where he can receive all the help he needs, and yet be allowed to remain as independent as possible. I am convinced that all handicapped people should be able to plan for a short stay with their families after they have left school, prior to being allowed to make a home of their own. The handicapped person must be able to be responsible for his own upkeep, to acquire his own possessions, and manipulate his own bank account. It is only then that he will feel truly independent and grown up. To me this is a realistic appraisal of what should be.

The houses and homes which I visited in England (1960), and Denmark (1962) had attempted to meet the demands of the handicapped with these ideas in mind. These projects I have discussed with Swedish handicapped persons, and the conclusion I have reached is that it is a widespread wish that such homes be started in Sweden.

## What I would like to see happen

The first and most important thing is that the Home must give the social and economic protection that both the handicapped and his parents would want.

The Home must be placed in the centre of the town for these reasons:—

1. The handicapped must find it easy to shop, to go to church, to concerts, to theatres, to cinemas, to cafés, etc.
2. Staff would be easier to attract for the same reasons, and the acquisition of good staff is most important
3. Social study groups, and similar organisations would find it easy to visit a centrally placed Home.

Each handicapped person should have his own room, complete with his own effects. He should be able to possess his own TV set, a radio, a telephone, a record player. The room should be large enough to permit the entertainment of friends for coffee.

I do wish to see the establishment of separate male and female departments. There could well be common rooms, and hobbies rooms for all to work in and meet in. It should be possible for two handicapped persons to marry.

I wish to see the provision of roomy garages for cycles and autocars; automatic lifts; doors that open both ways; and easy exits and entrances. I cannot stress too much what it must mean for a handicapped person not to have to rely always on someone else to help him move from one place to another.

Work, and the means of getting to work must be planned for every member of the Home no matter how severe his handicap.

May I once again emphasise the fact that everyone who can obtain and keep a job in the open market must be given every possible chance to get such a job and to keep it. It is important too, that every local authority, its officers and its officials, must be at all time sympathetically disposed to the handicapped.

## Sheltered Workshops

The sheltered workshop must lie near the Home. Its aim must be to cater for everyone, no matter how severe the handicap. Occupations must be manual and non-manual. This is what happened in England. . . One of the spastics was keen to become a free-lance journalist, but even using an electric typewriter he had great difficulty in writing at speed because he could only use one finger and that very often failed him. This man had been given a job in a sheltered workshop, and he was performing the crudest and most elementary tasks. He had a full working day which left him little or no time for this writing. He complained bitterly:

*'I sit all day pretending to work.'*

A wise and understanding work leader realised that the man was utterly frustrated by his 'work', and that life was beginning to mean very little to him. The leader arranged for the man to be free to write half-days.

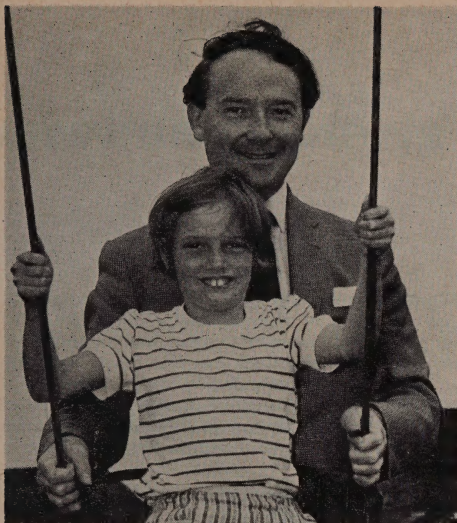
The moral of this anecdote is plain for all of us to see. I would like to see every handicapped person being allowed the fullest possible choice of job or profession.

## Independence

May I finish my article on a plea for freedom. Freedom for the handicapped person to be able to do something we all take so much for granted. . . I speak of the freedom to go to bed at what ever time one wishes. I realise only too well the difficulties that will arise from the point of view of the staff—but it is my fervent hope that these difficulties may be overridden by skilful planning and the greatest goodwill on everyone's part.

Many of you reading this article may have ideas and comments to make on what I have written or on the ideas I have proposed. Please do not hesitate to write to the Editor, or to me personally. It may then be possible to have them printed in this Journal.





Mr. J. A. Loring, with a youngster at Colwall Court

## Mr. Loring is appointed Deputy Director

**J**AMES LORING joined us in 1960 as Treasurer and within a few months became the Society's first Assistant Director (Services). During this period he was responsible, with the enthusiastic support of committees and staff, for developing and expanding the work of the department on a broad front. One of his first interests was the development of services for children, particularly in the field of education and he organised numerous educational seminars. More recently he has been expanding the welfare services and social work to provide help for older spastics. He has worked in close contact with professional bodies in several allied fields, represents the Society on various committees and has developed a special interest in the problems of the mentally handicapped.

Mr. Loring has frequently visited local groups, spoken at meetings in many parts of the country and has taken every opportunity of seeing, at first hand, work undertaken in the regions. He has also an extensive knowledge of all facets of the Society's work as on many occasions he deputised for the Director and was usually at his side at important meetings.

## THE STAFF SOCIAL CLUB'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



About 280 people attended the successful Staff Party held at the Victory Services' Club in December. Among those present, our photographer spotted these two cheerful parties. (Left) Bill (Boxes and Beacons) Howell and his daughter, Linda, and Mrs. Howell, the tireless organising secretary and Mr. G. V. Kettlewell enjoying a pint and (top left) Mr. Jack Bolton. (Above) Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Sutton, Mrs. Lilian and Mr. David Allen, Mrs. Betty and Mr. James Allen, who was responsible for the cabaret





Mr. Peter Jordan (left), thanking the Spurs Club for the deaf for their generous donation. (Centre) Mr. Arnold Garner, (right) Mr. Philip Seymour

### Deaf Club Donates £200

AT a very pleasant and unusual gathering in St. Luke's Hall, Chelsea, recently, a splendid cheque for £203 15s. was donated to the Society.

It was pleasant because of the friendly atmosphere and excellent refreshments, and unusual because this was a meeting of a club for deaf people, 'The Spurs'. They had held a whistle drive in May to raise money to buy suitable goods and had sold them at a sale of work in November.

Mr. Arnold Garner, the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, welcomed your correspondent and Mr. Peter Jordan of the Appeals Dept., and said he was glad that the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Philip Seymour, had had the idea of helping spastics, particularly as so many had hearing difficulties. But when he remarked that he thought we were a 'rich' Society, we had to enlighten him on the tremendous amount of work that we do, and that remains to be done.

In his speech of thanks, Mr. Jordan made the good point that our commitments would always exceed our financial ability to satisfy them but we were rich in one respect, namely in friends.

Certainly, as long as we can count on the support of others with such a grave handicap as deafness, who feel that spastics are worse off than themselves, we will consider ourselves fortunate indeed.

Thank you, Spurs!

### A Spastic Santa Claus

FATHER CHRISTMAS—17-year-old spastic David Vaughan, of Chippenham—arrived in a sleigh drawn by two toy reindeer and several helpers to give presents at

There was conjuring by Father Dominic Mansi from Downside Abbey, Stratton-on-the-Fosse; carols by the six children, aged eight to 16, of Compton Dando Handbell Ringers; and tea.

A dance, organised at the Mendip Motel, Frome, on 20th December, for 220 teenagers by Mrs. P. E. Rodway, of Bradford-on-Avon, raised £70.

#### IN MEMORY OF DR. C. P. STEVENS

Requiem Mass will be said for Dr. Charles Phillips Stevens at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, W.1, at 12.15 p.m. on Shrove Tuesday, 7th February, 1967.

### Carol Concert for Wycombe

£73 WAS COLLECTED for local spastics at a Carol Concert given on 21st December in St. Mary's Parish Church by the Amer-sham and Chesham Bois Choral Society.

Besides the old favourites, in which the audience was invited to join, the choir of about seventy voices gave a brilliant rendering of many less well-known items of Christmas music, including pieces by Bach, Handel and Berlioz.

During the interval Mrs. Ralph Hall, President of the Wycombe and District Spastics Society, made an appeal on behalf of the group's Tyler's Green Centre, which provides treatment on three days a week for about twenty small children drawn from a radius of ten miles.

Mrs. Hall said that one of the Centre's most important functions was to give

Bath and District Spastics Society annual Christmas party at Green Park Community Centre, Bath, on Saturday, 7th January.

mothers a brief rest from the constant care of their handicapped children. She invited anybody who was interested to visit the Centre as she felt it deserved to be more widely known locally.

After the concert, she announced the result of the appeal and thanked the audience for its magnificent response.

### Mrs. Appleby on the Air

WHAT PROMISES to be a fascinating programme is going out on 10th February, on 'Woman's Hour' (2 o'clock B.B.C.).

Mrs. Therese Appleby, who writes such excellent articles for the Press about spastics and the work of the Society, has recorded a symposium of interviews based on the Harperbury Hospital.

She has collected the views of the M.O., and also Dr. Bobath, of the Western Cerebral Palsy Centre and talked to a spastic resident at Wakes Hall, who—for thirty years—was condemned as mentally defective.

It is rarely that the Society can figure in such popular programmes and it is hoped for a repeat in 'Home for the Day'.

Mrs. Appleby has just come out of hospital herself, after an operation, but she is well on the mend.

### Help for Florence Spastics

DELEGATES WHO ATTENDED the '62 Club Conference at Nottingham University last April, made friends with several delegates from Florence since when, the Club Organisation has received many letters seeking advice on all aspects of Club activities.

When the dreadful floods overcame Florence a letter was received asking if help could be given by the '62 Clubs of Great Britain. Some 300 families were in dire distress having lost all their possessions and many of the Club Members in Florence had even lost their homes and their fathers were unable to work owing to their factories being washed away. Mr. Hargreaves immediately counted up the '62 Clubs and decided that they would wish to give practical help and promised to raise at least £150, just under £5 per Club. He then approached The Spastics Society and The Sembal Trust and when they heard of the action the '62 Clubs were taking, they donated a total of £1,000 making it possible for the Clubs

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to send a very practical help amounting to £1,150. In order that such help should be immediate, we managed to borrow the £150 and this is in course of being repaid by the Clubs. The response so far has been excellent and some Clubs have sent in double the amount requested. Other Clubs have not been able to raise very much but there is no doubt that all spastics who are able would wish to assist their brothers and sisters in such great distress. Further donations are urgently required and should be addressed to the Club Organiser, The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, W.1, enclosing a letter stating that the money is for the Florence Distress Fund. It is not often given to spastics to be able to help others and Mr. Hargreaves is sure all will rise to the occasion and do whatever they can to assist.

## Isabella was Impressed

A BEAUTIFUL ITALIAN GIRL, Isabella Astengo, will forge the Society another link with spastics in Italy, on her return to Rome.

Isabella intended only to see the sights and improve her English when she came to Britain last year, but she joined The Spastics Society as a shorthand typist instead. She was so impressed by the work of the Society, she decided to make her future career among spastics. Now, after studying many of our schools and centres, she has become assistant to Madame Serra, Secretary of the Italian Spastics Association in Rome. The Association is carrying out much pioneer work and Isabella has promised to send us reports.

## Foresters' Gift to Coombe Farm

AT THE BEGINNING OF 1966 the Independent Order of Foresters' Court Surrey Pine 2071, made The Spastics Society its Charity of the Year. As a result the Coombe Farm Centre will soon have a splendid new Filmosound projector and speaker costing several hundred pounds. The equipment, paid for by special events organised by the Foresters, is to be presented to Mr. J. A. Loring, Deputy Director of The Spastics Society during a charity ball at Wandsworth Town Hall in January.

## The Fifty-fifth Assessment Course—in Devon

THE SOCIETY IS RUNNING its fifty-fifth Assessment Course at Dartington Hall, Totnes, in the Devon College of Further Education, as we go to press.

This is the second time the Society has been to Dartington, and we would like to record how grateful we are for all the help and kindness received from the staff at this lovely place, that helped to make the course last year such a success.

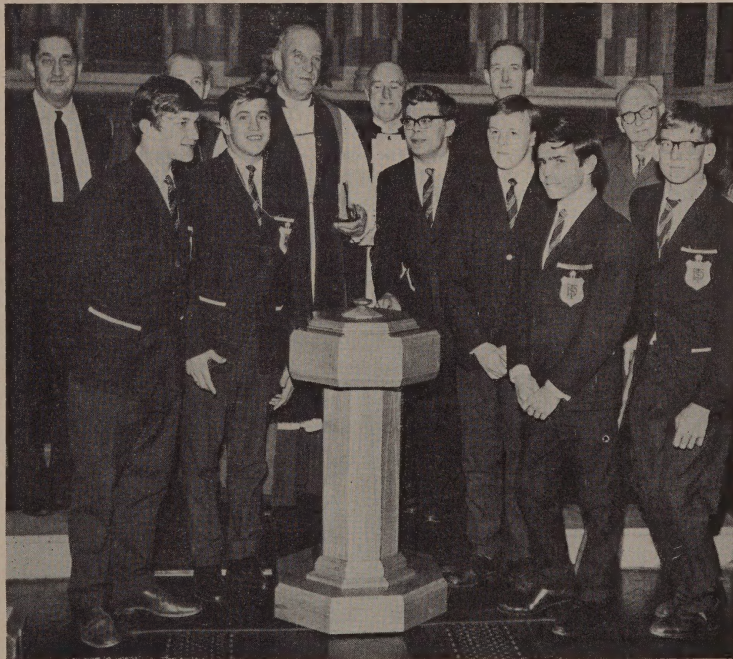
In the last few years more than 1,400 spastics have been found jobs by the Society, and 25 more young people from all over the country will now be taking the course of lectures, discussions, film shows and visits to local factories to make them aware of what employment really means. Apart from some local residents, candidates have come from as far afield

as Yorkshire, Lancashire, Wales and Surrey.

Miss Morgan, who is in charge of our Social Work and Employment Department, had hoped to run this course, but because of the new arrangements coming into force after the Director's death, she has called on Mrs. A. A. Wynn. Mrs. Wynn, who is now in retirement, was well known as our Senior Careers Advisory Officer and she will have Miss Evans, Miss A. Sturzaker and a Social Worker, Miss J. Greenberg, to help her.

The Employment Officer, Mr. P. J. Dyer will also be addressing the course.

Mr. Jack Boydell, the Manager of Films and Publications Dept., is taking the opportunity of shooting some ciné-film of the work done on the course.



(Courtesy: Kent and Sussex Courier)

**NEW FONT FOR ST. STEPHENS:** The Bishop of Tonbridge, the Rt. Rev. Russell B. White, at the Dedication, with some Delarue boys who made the new font for the Church. He described it as 'gloriously made and beautiful'. Mr. E. Hayes, the handiwork master and many pupils attended the service where the lesson was read by the Headmaster, Mr. G. D. C. Tudor





## 'Thank Goodness for a Sense of Humour'

A day in the Oxford Spastic's Hope Chest

described by E. Cowen

THE ACCUMULATED MASS OF STOCK in the shop was sorted; the furs from the good quality tweeds and the thick-knits from the thin-knits, all of which were duly sprayed with de-mother and stored away for the forthcoming season. The woollen waste was sorted from the cotton waste and separately bagged. Next came the job of sectionizing the saleable stock. Into the Gents' Dept. went the trousers and waistcoats, the summer pullovers, the shirts all neatly folded and the suits shaken and 'ung on 'angers.

A move to the Household Department revealed the displayed furnishings of elaborate velvet and damask, draped so as to conceal the largest of the holes. The antimacassars, duchess sets and the like were piled high in the display stand.

The kiddywinks were not forgotten. Some little darlings' cast-off diapers, rompers, etcetera, were thrust to the forefront while the gay patriotic bunting, heralding the reopening of the H.C., waved in the breeze after the black bra, mysteriously caught up with the aforesaid bunting, had been hurriedly removed.

The Treasure Chest, strategically placed, contained untold bargains at sixpence a time!

Then the ladies, God bless 'em, were to be catered for. The choicest merchandise was placed on hanger after hanger; the deep shelves were scrubbed clean to

accommodate the mounds of really lovely garments kindly given by friends of the H.C. These included blouses, jumpers, skirts, dresses, cardigans, knitwear, nightwear, hose, gents' wear, children's wear, boots, shoes, sports gear and general miscellany. There were so many items of ladies' underwear in pink and white, blue and black, navy and red that a whole section was devoted to these items, among which was a particularly lovely full length lace slip.

To the writer this seemed to stand out from all the many hundreds, no thousands, of articles in the shop. It had become a little grubby in the general m  le of 'setting up shop' so the writer decided to take it home and launder it. The result was so satisfying that it was singled out for display on a coat-hanger.

The writer, admiring the garment, voiced the opinion aloud, 'Doesn't that look better for a good wash?' The writer is still recovering from her embarrassment when another 'lady of the Hope Chest' piped up with, 'THAT happened to be my slip'. Peace reigns in the H.C. tonight, due to the latter lady's (she shall remain unnamed) sense of humour—and with £37 15s. 11½d. in the kitty at the end of the day, it could afford to.

**Footnote—by the Institute of Statistics—**

*The slip realised the princely sum of Two shillings and sixpence.*

## The Night o

OUR FIRST CENTRE—a Play Therapy Centre we called it—was established in a Dancing Studio, loaned free by the late Mrs. Turner, Principal of the Southampton School of Ballet, and was officially opened by Alderman Mrs. King, B.A., then Mayor of the town, in the presence of other distinguished folk, 24th January, 1954. Six children only attended for two mornings weekly, with voluntary help and voluntary transport. This latter soon proved unsatisfactory and before long the Association provided transport, and continues to do so—except in the case of those children whose transport is supplied by their local authority. Mrs. Turner gave us our start and we regret deeply that she has since died.

The pattern of that first small Centre forms the basis of our pattern today. The studio, however, quickly proved to be too small, and help was sought from Mr. Charles Knott, the local sports promoter. For years previously Mr. Knott had generously given support to local children's hospitals, etc., and we told him of the disabilities of our children—we told him that in order to help the children we needed a hall or large room of our own.

### Princess Margaret's Visit

About this time Princess Margaret visited the town to receive purses on behalf of the Y.W.C.A., and Mr. Knott allowed us to take some of our spastics to the Stadium to see the Princess there. Mr. Knott saw the children too, and the outcome was that during the next speedway season Mr. Knott wonderfully raised £1,000 for us, helped magnificently by the Speedway Supporters' Club members and the speedway riders. Dr. Horace King, M.P., presented the cheque for £1,000 to me as representative of the Group at the end-of-season gala speedway meeting. The entire proceeds of this gala evening—some £500, Mr. Knott donated, to bring his total gift to £1,000, and with that gift it seemed that all our troubles were over. Alas, in reality they were just beginning. It was, we found, quite impossible to acquire land locally and heaping generosity up on generosity, Mr. Knott gave us a piece of his land opposite his office, to build on. Still his goodwill increased and he interested influential friends so that the



## Mrs. Welch describes the triumph and tragedy of the Southampton Centre

7



## The Night of the Fire (cont'd)

other books of data were lost and irreplaceable. It seemed we were back where we began six years earlier. Not quite, however, help poured in. Mr. Knott said, 'Use the Stadium to store what you wish, it will be safe and dry'. The insurance representative arrived—the builders—cups of tea were apparently conjured from the air. The electricians arrived—long reports appeared in the local press, *The Southern Daily Echo*, and financial help began to come in. Well-wishers encouraged us—school heads and doctors rang and said 'It is certain to come right again—the Centre is doing a grand job'. After that first terrible day after the fire—with the rain pouring down relentlessly and all the piles of deep black debris—we began to think more clearly, and to realise that anything achieved during the past years had been achieved within the spastics themselves. We realised that those achievements lived on—whatever outward signs may have been lost—in the increased confidence and increased skills of the children themselves.

### Repairs were started

The assessor and the builder spent hours measuring and advising—figures were presented and speedily agreed, and miraculously on Monday, 2nd November, repairs were started—and first, an emergency lighting and heating system installed. More than that, that same evening the Speed-on Spastic Youth Club members enjoyed their pre-arranged Guy Fawkes evening—with fireworks and a large bonfire—on which blazed the ends of desks, chairs, etc. (debris left by the fire). The spastics were taken into the main hall to inspect the damage—after the fireworks—and were encouraged to talk of the fire, and were then told that it was up to them to co-operate in every way possible, and that they must put up with the unavoidable inconvenience cheerfully, until such time as the hall could be restored.

Everyone then crowded into the treatment room—which was blackened by smoke, but not otherwise damaged—and thoroughly enjoyed eating hot chips sitting on the floor (no chairs left!) out of paper bags (no plates) with fingers (no forks!). This proved to be good, for the spastics after seeing the damage appeared able to accept the situation and after saying together our Centre prayer and a special prayer asking God to help us at this sad time went home with hope in their hearts and a sense of thankfulness that things were not worse—which, of course, they could have been. I am sure

## A Cheque for Canterbury and Kent Coast Group



(Courtesy: Kentish Gazette)

Mr. Gilbert Bragg (centre), Chairman of the Canterbury and Kent Coast Group, receiving a cheque for £500 from Mr. P. V. Colbrook, Chairman and Managing Director of Pfizer Ltd., the Group's Hon. Sec., Mr. L. G. Coombs, is on the left. Pfizers decided to give this generous donation for the Lanthorne Hospital Hydrotherapy Pool instead of sending Christmas cards

that spastics should be encouraged to face up to the trials and tribulations of life—as we all have to do. This is kindest to them. We cannot—we must not—always shield them, for if we do, we build around them an empty security which is rudely shattered by the death of a loved one, or other calamity which cannot be hidden. Better by far to give to them the quiet inexorable belief that God is always there, that He cares about them, and that His love will give them the strength to bear whatever life brings.

On the morning of Wednesday, 4th, November, 1959, we hopefully gathered the children together in the treatment room. Having the emergency light and heat circuit installed, we thought we could manage to carry on at the Centre at least on a restricted basis—but we were wrong! The builders had erected staging throughout the main hall—which meant that we either had to go outdoors to the toilet—in the very wet weather prevailing—or crouch under the iron structures, carrying the young children, or helping the older ones. Breaking backs at the end of the first day convinced us that we just could not do it. It was decided to close the Centre temporarily as far as the young children were concerned, and to carry on for the

older spastics at my home in Rose Road for the time being. One very surprising thing happened on that Wednesday, 4th November. It was impossible to cook at the Centre and so we ordered a coach and drove to a café in Shirley for lunch. This proved to be a great boost to our morale. It was quite fantastic. Even children who had to be supported and fed behaved faultlessly. Children who could feed themselves did so, and sat well on normal chairs. The older spastics chose, with decision, from several available lunches, used knives and forks well—in fact the staff felt proud of them all.

The re-built Centre re-opened 11th January, 1960—to the joy of all connected with it. Everything newly decorated—all in yellow and red, with new silver grey curtains. Our National Spastics Society was a tower of strength to us, not only moral encouragement but as well provided the extra money to cover our needs. Soon Mr. Knott gave us more room for an office; permission for porches to be built over the doors to provide cover when loading and unloading the children in bad weather; inner doors were widened—and in some cases glass panels added—making movement of wheelchairs easier and everywhere lighter.



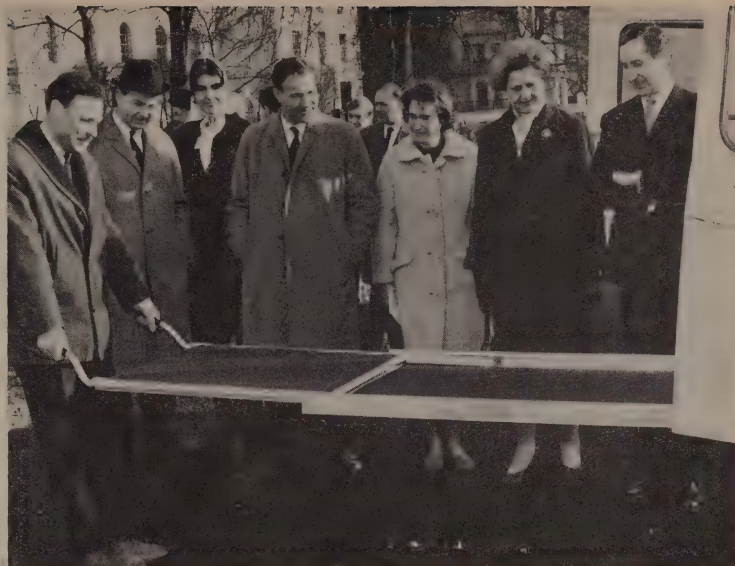
# Specialised Vehicles on Show in Regents Park

SPECIALISED VEHICLE design is an important subject to any organisation concerned with the sick or handicapped. That is why the Council for the Mobility for the Disabled set up a sub-committee some 18 months ago to study it in detail.

The Chairman is Mr. Derek Lancaster-Gaye, The Spastics Society's Assistant Director, Services. The members are representatives of local authorities and voluntary organisations. And their aim is to find the perfect vehicle for handicapped people.

The climax of their discussions came when they gathered in the sunshine of Regents Park recently for a most unusual event: an ambulance rally.

Twelve vehicles, each the newest of its kind, had travelled from all over England for the event. With the permission of the Bailiff of the Royal Parks they lined up at Gloucester Gate while Committee members spent more than two hours climbing in and out of each one and making detailed notes.



The newly-appointed Assistant Director, Services, Mr. Derek Lancaster-Gaye, demonstrating the telescopic sloping ramp that he had fitted to the new Mini-bus for Meldreth. (L. to R.): Mr. Elwyn Jones, Ambulance Officer, Cheshire, Miss G. Kinmont, Mr. H. Brew, Star Motors, Sevenoaks, Miss Ross-Smith from the British Red Cross, Miss Foster-Hall and Mr. Michael Stopford

Co-operation by five leading firms made the rally possible.

Herbert Lomas Ltd. had three vehicles on the road at 5 a.m. to get from Manchester in time, while an even earlier start was made by the ambulance sent by Appleyard of Leeds Ltd. In addition there were three vehicles from Rootes of Maidstone, two from Wadhams of Hampshire and three from Martin Walter of Folkestone.

In the Rootes line-up was The Spastics Society's trim white 12-seater vehicle, making its public debut before being delivered to Meldreth Manor. It is a van conversion, designed by Mr. Lancaster-Gaye, and one of its most interesting features is a telescopic, lightweight ramp with a false floor. This extra-long ramp, with its gentle gradient, makes the manoeuvring of wheelchairs easier and safer.

The Committee were also impressed by the Meldreth van's efficient and comfortable seat belts, which give security at the shoulders and the waist.

The vehicles on show ranged in price from £750 to £3,750 (the Meldreth van has cost £2,750) and all had features of particular interest. One, for example, had built-

in toilet facilities. Another had seats adjustable by push button, as in passenger aircraft. And there were ramps operated by hand, hydraulically or by power take off.

The committee will meet soon to discuss the points that impressed them most.

'All the vehicles fulfilled the same basic purpose, but it was extremely interesting to see such a large variety in terms of size and price' declared Mr. Lancaster-Gaye.

Variations in the seating arrangements allow for three, four or six wheelchairs to be safely carried, attached by expanding straps to fixtures in the floor and sides of the vans. Seats in some cases faced forward, and in others faced inwards and could be folded back.

Most interiors had upholstery and paintwork in bright, pleasantly contrasting colours, and one ambulance, made by Appleyards for Doncaster Lion's Club had exterior coachwork in the very latest shade of Parma Violet. Surely this should have a better psychological effect on the passengers than surgical white and workhouse green!

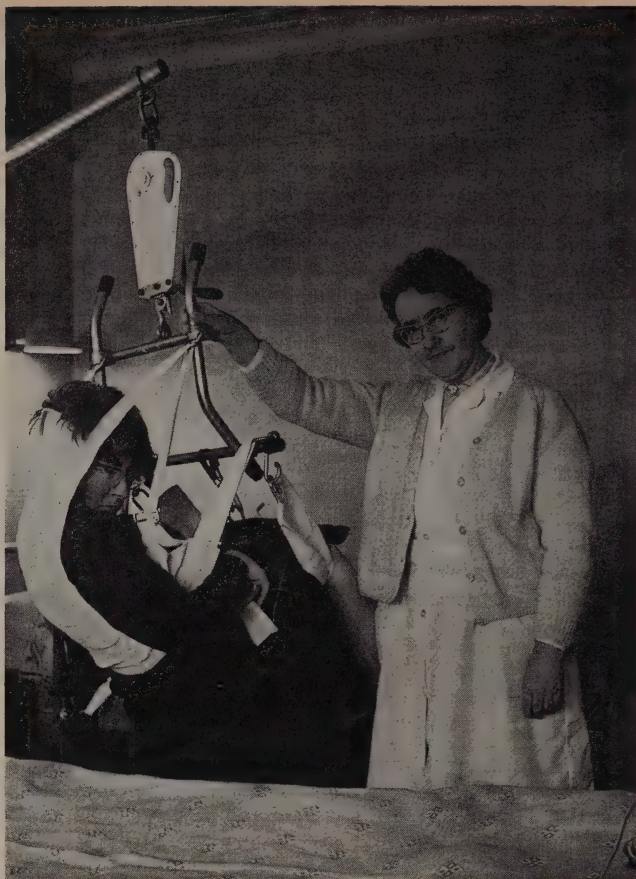
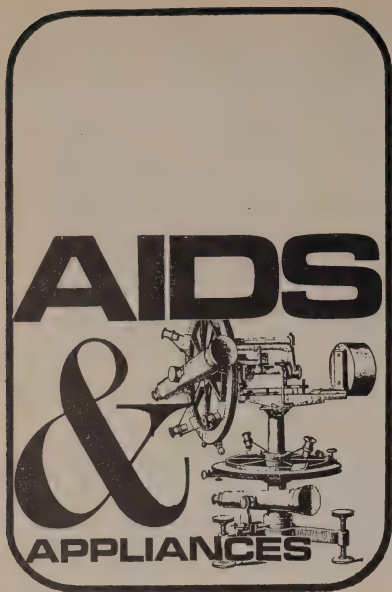
## STOP PRESS

March 4th, Southampton Work Centre to be opened by Dr. Horace King, Speaker of the House of Commons.



Miss G. Kinmont, Mr. Lomas, Miss June Sampson, Information Officer, Miss Foster-Hall, Mr. Nicholas Elwes, Application Officer, inspecting the interior of a vehicle

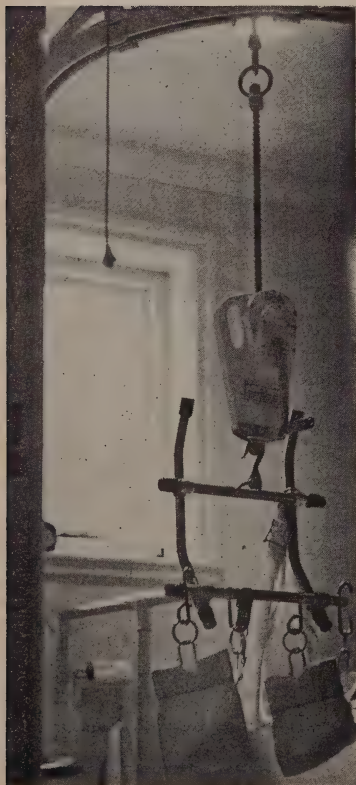




### Hewitt Hoist

*In this photograph Miss Gillian Cullis at Coombe Farm, Croydon, demonstrates the Hewitt hoist that she uses to get from her wheelchair into her bed. The Housemother, Miss K. Smith, winds the handle (just above her hand in the photograph) to lift and lower the hoist. In the bedroom the hoist hangs from a wall davit (cost £11). Various slings can be added to the stretcher bar and the same hoist can be unhooked and used between the bath and lavatory on a sliding rail as shown in the photograph on the left.*

*The manufacturers of this hoist are Hewitt Watson Equipment Ltd., Henbury Hill, Henbury, Bristol, and it costs £55 10s. 0d. complete with Hewatson Jack, spreader bar and a set of three nylon straps.*



**Compiled  
by**

**N. D. B. Elwes**



### Everest and Jennings Power Drive Chair

Here again is Miss Cullis riding in her Power Drive Wheelchair. This wheelchair drives by an electric motor on each wheel and has a small joy stick which you point in the direction in which you wish to go. The control box is arranged in this case on the right side of the chair, but it can equally well be mounted on the left side. When the batteries are removed, the chair can be collapsed like an ordinary transit chair. This chair is one of two supplied by the Ministry of Health to residents at Coombe Farm. The total of electric wheelchairs now zooming around Coombe Farm, most of them are A.C. Epic wheelchairs, is 16, and parking, breakdowns and traffic problems are amongst the new problems, that Mr. Udall has to cope with. The cost of this chair is £150 and is supplied by Zimmer Orthopaedic Limited, Bridgend, Glamorgan (London Showrooms—176 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3).



### From chair with detachable arms to bed using a bridgeboard



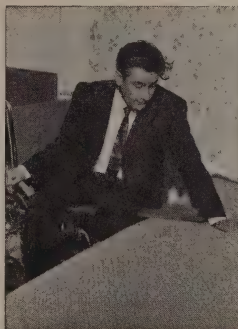
Move wheelchair as close as possible to the bed. Apply brakes



The attendant removes the detachable arms



Legs are moved to the side of the chair



The bridgeboard is placed in position, resting firmly on both the bed and the chair seat



Move along the bridgeboard onto the bed. The legs can now be lifted onto the bed and the bridgeboard removed

I have been criticised for putting in the SPASTICS NEWS this reprint of wheelchair handling from the 'Owners Manual' made for Everest and Jennings Wheelchair users. I agree that most spastics will not be able to follow the instructions given, but most wheelchair users will gain something, even if it only makes you stop to think of ways and means of using your wheelchair to the utmost. I shall be very glad to have any series of photographs that show how someone with a spastic disability is able to overcome his mobility difficulties.



# The Effect on the Family

**Parents should find a suitable person in their area on whom they can depend for information says Dr. DUNCAN LEYS**

WHAT EFFECT DOES A MENTALLY retarded child have upon his normal brothers and sisters? I think it hypocritical to say, as I have heard it said, that it is good for the other children to have a handicapped brother. If people really believed this, they would presumably arrange to take a handicapped child from one of the many homes and hospitals into their own family; there are plenty of them available! It *will* impose a strain on them and if there is no understanding of this, a normal child may become jealous and actually suffer neglect, but the strain may be taken without harm if too much is not asked of the other children so that their lives are not seriously restricted, and this ought to mean that their mothers are relieved of the care of the handicapped child for at least some part of the day, so that they are free to preserve some energy and time for the rest of the family.

Mothers should also be free to go out with their husbands fairly often. There is at present practically nothing organised for this kind of relief, so that people have to make their own arrangements, and this is not at all easy, since many possible baby-sitters are afraid to look after a mentally handicapped child. This is a reflection of bad social attitudes to mental handicap which are, one hopes, now fairly rapidly being altered. It goes without saying that it is just as important, if not more important, for a baby-sitter to be familiar to, and be liked by the child, as it would be for a very young child at any time.

## **'It Requires Courage'**

It requires quite a bit of courage and a lot of stamina to take a severely handicapped child about in public, on trains and buses, to the seaside, to cafés and restaurants. The people you meet are not really unfriendly, but they are not familiar with such children (or adults), and therefore don't quite know how to behave, whether to pretend they haven't noticed your child is *unusual*, whether to show sympathy, to offer help, and so on. It is important for development that a child should not be cut off from the ordinary experience of the streets, shops, entertainments, play holidays, contact with all sorts of people, like any other child.

The amount of help given to the families of mentally handicapped children varies greatly from one locality to another. Many

different agencies may be concerned—teachers and education officers, public health and hospital doctors, social workers and health visitors, family doctors and district nurses, and, by no means least, voluntary associations.

Parents need to find out what is available in the area and also to choose some one person, usually but not necessarily a doctor, upon whom they are going to depend for information and guidance. Usually some person will be found in your neighbourhood, perhaps in the public health service, perhaps a hospital paediatrician, who is specially interested and concerned about handicapped children and who is helpful and well informed. Having found such a person, parents will do well to stick to him (or her) as the one whom they can confidently regard as their counsellor, to whom they can speak without reserve, and who is willing to afford them time, separately or together, for leisured interviews.

Nobody is omniscient in this field and no

doctor resents being asked, by parents who are concerned to do the best they possibly can for their child, direct questions about his state and his future. Very often he will not be able to satisfy parents because there will be no definite answers which *anyone* could give; if he is touchy about being asked for a second opinion he is not the right man for the job, but it is also true that parents, in their anxiety, can become obsessively convinced that there is always someone better, someone who knows all the answers, and they may go searching for this imagined paragon from one clinic to another. Nothing I can say here is going to stop people from being anxious, but I think a good deal of *useless* anxiety can be got rid of by exchanging ideas with other parents of handicapped children, from whom incidentally useful information can be picked up, through associations formed for the purpose, and these can also serve to help in organising joint holidays, baby-sitting, expeditions and entertainments.

## **An Audiometer Presented to Craig-y-Park**



Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Williment of the Winchester Group have donated the money for the School to purchase an audiometer in gratitude for what has been done for their courageous son, Nicholas, during his time there since May, 1955. Seen above with the speech therapist, Mrs. E. M. Fielder, Nicholas has been an active member of the Scouts and made wonderful progress with his speech and movement





# A PICTORIAL TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF

**Dr. C. P. Stevens, M.B.E.**

Director of the Spastics Society  
1957 — 1966

*—With Quentin Hogg at  
the Cottage Industries  
Exhibition*

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## Ten Years of Active Concern

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*—With Mrs. Stevens and his daughter Clare (on left), and some visitors from  
Africa, in the garden of his home at Maidenhead. His son Simon is third  
from the right*



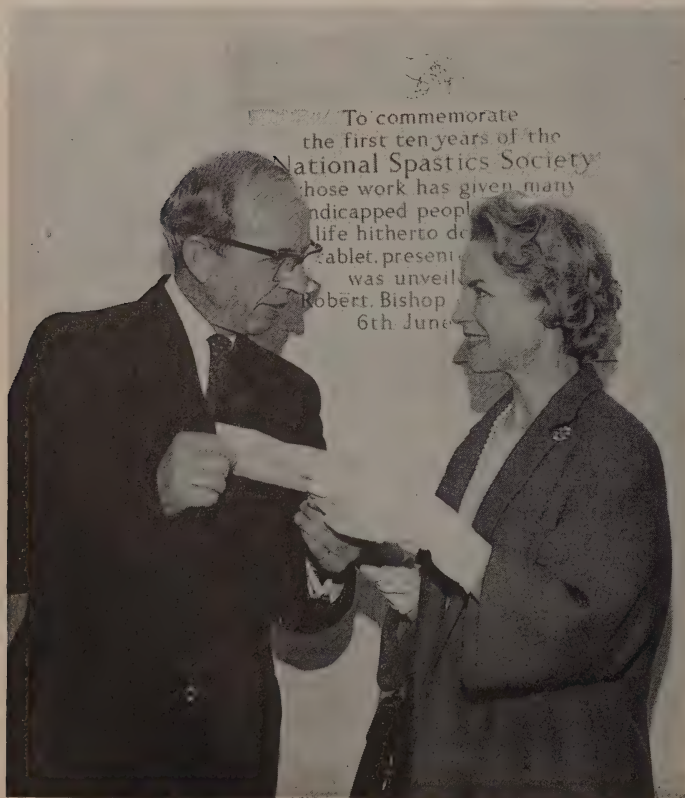


—With our Royal Patron, Princess Marina, looking over the works at Sherrards Training Centre, Welwyn, Herts.



A SOCIAL OCCASION: dressed for the S.O.S. Mrs. Steven

**He coined the phrase, 'Love  
and whatever the occasion,**



(Left)—with Miss Muriel Pavlow on the occasion of with Mr. and Mrs. Moira and Mr. and Mrs. Bowyer Sterling Moss when he drove the Mobile





Mrs. Burn, Mr. Emms, Mr. Burn, Mr. Loring,  
Mrs. Moira



—With Mr. Palmer, Mr. F. Peart, Minister of Agriculture, the Warden of Thorngrove Farm,  
Mr. King and the Archdeacon of Dorset

are Costs Money'  
presence enhanced it



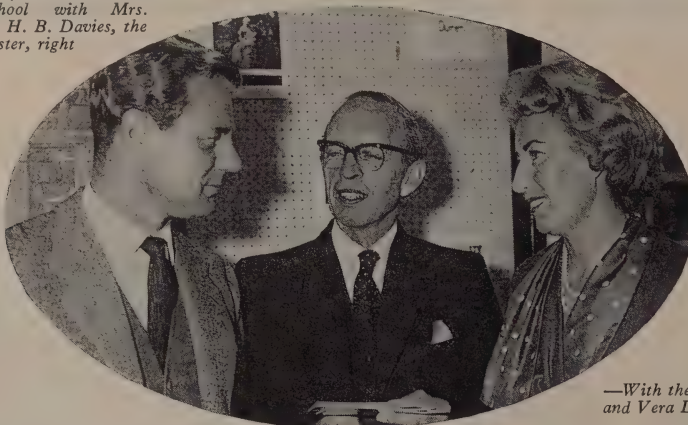
Anniversary of the Society. (Above)—  
ment of Mr. Bowyer. (Right)—with  
Vehicle to Park Crescent







—On the platform at Thomas Delarue School with Mrs. Stevens. Mr. H. B. Davies, the then Headmaster, right



—With the Stars, Tony Wright and Vera Lynn



(Left)—with Sir J. Wolfenden. (Above)—with some children at Craig-y-Parc



# 'Somewhere a bell began to toll . . .'

## Denis McCullough describes a visit to Ushaw College, Durham

IT IS QUITE A DISTANCE from the Lakeland mountains to the hills of north-west Durham, upon which stands Ushaw College, from whose narrow chapel the final notes of Vespers soared from so many throats that only a few weeks previously had yodelled from mountain to mountain.

Memories came flooding back to me, as I spotted below the odd student among those 300, with whom I'd spent some adventurous holidays in the Lake District. Beside me, up in the gallery, were three of the Professors without whose generous assistance I should never have scaled those towering peaks, and it was at their invitation that I was now visiting this Seminary which educates future priests for the diocese of northern England.

Twelve years span the course of study at Ushaw. Just as we are stimulated under the guidance of doctors and physiotherapists in learning to control our wayward limbs, a student for the priesthood is closely guided in the development of his vocation by his priest-professors. Like all schools, sport plays an important part in daily life, and they play hard at Ushaw. There were many gaps in the racks of soccer boots just inside the door of the junior house as we entered, three professors and myself. All was peaceful and quiet. Only the odd youth transitorily slid from the row of bed cubicles, as we passed, and flitted away out of sight.

Occasionally we paused amidst the labyrinth of corridors that link up the buildings of this 160-year-old college, to glance into some classrooms. During an era when men of prowess were conquering Lakeland peaks, and up which the professors and lads have skilfully hauled me, students at these rough desks, were bringing their vocations to fruition and making the final ascent to kneel before a bishop in ordination, and some going on in time to become bishops and cardinals themselves.

For some the gradient is too severe and they leave Ushaw to serve God, patiently, as we all try to, in various ways. The choice is not always obvious—not always ours to make. So as the minutes tick off towards four o'clock the pace quickened. Somewhere a bell began to toll; theological students nodded as they hurried past my mentors, their cassocks swishing about their legs, striding out towards the chapel; some of the younger lads, whom I recognised, came galloping around the corner,

their faces glistening with sweat after soccer, creased into a grin of recognition. Diving under a shower, they made a quick change before scurrying off towards the chapel.

Echoes lingered in the corridors that flank the quadrangle. So peaceful and quiet, like the Langstrathe valley up which four lads and I purposely trod, looking for Angle Tarn and missing it, and almost ending up in Dungeon Ghyll miles away. We hared back to Borrowdale as hungry as hunters. Youths are always hungry and 'Ushawmen' never glance sideways *en route* to the College Refractory. During meals, silence is observed while one student reads into a microphone from a small pulpit. Sunday tea, however, is not a silent meal, and something more than a 'buzz' whipped around the 101ft. long and 37ft. wide eating quarters, and from whose walls past presidents of Ushaw look down.

Perhaps it is in the gloaming that one really becomes immersed in the atmosphere

of Ushaw. Its long passages, illuminated by a solitary light with odd steps and sharp turnings, which may be very different from the wide corridors of our own residential centres down which our wheelchairs can sweep. Yet both places spell home. Ushaw is the Alma Mater of so many, past theology students, present and to come; their modern studios, whose walls are lined with well-thumbed books, which are not quite so valuable as some of the 39,000 up in the main library. A single light produced an air of eeriness as we scrutinized some precious early English psalter, together with an original manuscript of one of Francis Thompson's Odes.

Lights were twinkling from the mining communities that cluster below Ushaw, as we drove away. Soon the lights in those dormitories and small rooms would be snuffed out as Ushaw sleeps. But Ushaw never rests, while there are mountains to be climbed and communities to serve the world over.



Mrs. A. Fox who makes dresses for dolls to sell in aid of spastics



# the Stars in their Courses . .

*News of the*  
STARS ORGANISATION  
FOR SPASTICS

*collected by*  
**'THE CALLBOY'**



**HALSTEAD ROUND TABLE PRESENT A NEW LIFT FOR WAKES HALL MINI-BUS:**  
(L. to R.): The Warden, Mr. Chapleo, S.O.S. President, The Marchioness of Tavistock, S.O.S. Chairman, David Jacobs, Austin Byrne (the Irishman) in wheelchair, Donald Houston and R. MacDowell, Chairman of the Round Tablers, and John Horsley

**Westminster Abbey Service:** I recently went with Hy Hazell to the closing service of the 900th Anniversary Year of the Abbey which was conducted by the Dean. The service marked the ending of a year during which the Dean and Chapter had organised many special exhibitions, commemoration and thanksgiving services and the Market and Fair in which the S.O.S. was privileged to participate along with 25 other charities. The carols were sung by the Abbey Choir and the fanfare was played by the boys of Christ's Hospital School. During the service the Sachrist called to the Sanctuary the representatives of the Societies and Groups who had thronged the Abbey during this celebration year. With the withdrawal of the Collegiate Body from the Abbey the Senior Chorister released 901 balloons from the Dean's Yard to symbolise the theme of the Dean's address which had been 'Looking to the Future'.

**64 Beacons in the North:** I was interested to learn from Mr. L. C. Henderson, The Spastic Societies' Appeals Organiser in the North, that 64 beacon push-overs had taken place in his area since 2nd May, 1966. S.O.S. members who have assisted in these knock-overs are Jack Howarth with a total of 17 beacons, Pierre Picton—Pierre the Clown—with a total of three and Dickie Valentine with two. Other artists who have most generously given their help are Bernard Youens, William Roache, David Whitfield and Joan Winters, as well as Freddie Truman, Mr. Hands and his young ladies and Keith Macklin. The area covered ranged from Shifnal in Shropshire to Birmingham to Workington, and over to

Doncaster. The largest cheque collected at one visit was from The Cranberry Fold Inn, Lower Darwen, and amounted to £340. The most paid for a single autograph was for a milk bottle signed by Bernard Youens—Stan Ogden of 'Coronation Street'—which, when raffled, went for £20. During this year Jack Howarth continued his personal autograph collection for the funds of the S.O.S. and by his supreme efforts has raised £1,000 to date. A very big thank you to everybody who has helped with beacon collecting during recent months.

**Printing the Unprintable:** A philanthropic society, with a quite unprintable name, met together at the Anglo-Belgian Club and presented to Leslie Crowther a cheque for £350 for services rendered, which isn't bad considering that only the members contributed and although there were 75 people present 63 were guests as there are only 12 members in the society.

**Festival Hall:** I recently visited the Festival Hall with some of the residents from Wakes Hall to see a performance of the 'Nutcracker Suite'. We all agreed afterwards over a cup of tea in the café-teria that this had been a most enjoyable occasion and it was made especially so by the marvellous lift facilities and the special seating which, in limited quantity, is available there for handicapped people.

**Miles Manderson** recently resigned from the Secretaryship of the S.O.S. in

order to work in his own Car Hire Company on a full time basis. All the members were very sorry to see him leave but are happy that he has accepted membership of the S.O.S. and will therefore still be attending meetings and functions now sitting on the other side of the table. Mrs. Sheila Rawstorne has been appointed Secretary of the S.O.S.

**Pierre the Author:** I was invited to see Bertram Mills' Circus by Pierre Picton—better known as 'Pierre the Clown'—on the day that it was being televised.

We met in the Artistes' Lounge in the interval and I was very thrilled to be introduced to Coco who presented me with one of his well-known pencils, inviting me at the same time to—'drop him a line'.

It was fun watching all the wonderful acts in reality and on the monitor sets at the same time. The star, Rogana, whose picture is on the back cover in her magnificent Indian feathered head-dress, was particularly clever, and the animals were, as usual, superb.

Let's hope that the circus may be found a new home for next season.

Incidentally, Pierre told me that he has been busy writing some children's stories for SPASTICS NEWS, and the Editor hopes to publish the first instalment in the March issue.

The stories are about a disabled girl and her adventures with her magical wheelchair.





(Courtesy: East Anglia Daily Times)

**CHRISTMAS PARTY AT WAKES HALL:** (L. to R.): Kenneth Warden, David Jacobs, The Marchioness of Tavistock, Gwen Cade, Sylvia Sims, Hilda Smith, Vera Lynn

**By Train to Penryn:** On a cold winter's day in January I caught a train with Inia Te Wiata to visit the *Halfway House Inn* at Rame Cross, near Penryn in Cornwall. This was the third time that I had visited Mr. and Mrs. Richards, the landlord and his wife, so I was able to reassure Inia that despite the long journey at the end of it we would be sure of a very splendid evening. This was indeed the case. The choir of the *Halfway House* gave Inia a tremendous welcome and he, of course, reciprocated by singing some of his own traditional songs. Once again there was a marvellous collection of £155 making the total amount collected at this house £610.



## Forthcoming Events

### HEMEL HEMPSTEAD CONCERT:

Hemel Hempstead Round Table are most generously organising a concert in the Pavilion, Hemel Hempstead, on Sunday, 26th February, at 8 p.m. The proceeds of the concert are to be divided between the S.O.S. and the local Physically Handicapped Works Centre.

Leslie Crowther, who is in charge of the presentation for the concert, is busy telephoning all his friends inviting them to appear on the bill and David Jacobs, Alan Freeman, Don Moss and Peter Murray will be introducing the various artists. Tickets will be available from the Pavilion, Hemel Hempstead, shortly.



**RECORD STAR SHOW:** David Jacobs is busy once again contacting recording artists inviting them to appear at the Record Star Show which is to be held again at the Empire Pool, Wembley, on 19th March. There will again be two houses, one at 2 p.m., and the other at 6.30 p.m., and tickets will be available from the box office at the Empire Pool. A limited number of special seats will be available for handicapped parties.



## Work begins on first Family Help Unit in Wales

WORK BEGINS THIS WEEK on the Family Help Unit being built by The Spastics Society in Cyncoed Road, Cardiff. It will be the first such unit in Wales.

A late 19th century mansion, Bryn Awel, set in three acres of land, is being converted and extended. The work is expected to take 42 weeks to complete, and development costs will be in the region of £57,000.

Family Help Units are designed to provide short-term residential care for spastic children particularly in times of family stress. Residential care is provided for periods of a few weeks, giving the child's mother the chance of a much needed rest or holiday. Alternatively, the mother can visit her child at the unit or stay for a night or two.

The Cardiff unit will provide accommodation for 14 heavily handicapped spastic children and will serve the whole of South Wales. They will be cared for by qualified nursing staff.

In the grounds of Bryn Awel is the day care unit of the Cardiff and District Spastics Association which is affiliated to The Spastics Society.

The Society has already established Family Help Units in Nottingham and Manchester and another will open shortly at Plymouth. There are plans for further units throughout England and Wales, but it is feared that unless a substantial increase in funds is achieved this vital programme may be delayed.

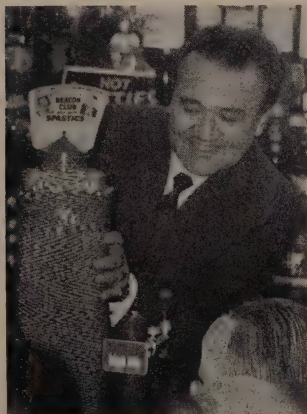
## New use for Woodford Congregational Hall

A TRANSFORMATION is taking place at the Congregational Church Hall at Woodford, Essex. High powered machine tools are being installed and in a few weeks' time the Hall will become a temporary work centre providing employment for up to 15 spastic men and women.

The conversion is being undertaken by The Spastics Society and the centre will be in use for about two years until a permanent work centre to serve the area has been built at Chingford.

The spastics who will be attending the Woodford centre live at the Society's hostels in Woodford Green. They will be engaged on drilling and hand work.

When the Chingford centre opens it will provide 45 places for spastics from a wide area and it is hoped that machining contracts will be negotiated with a number of local firms.



Inia Te Wiata—and beacon



# 'Thank You, Mrs. Weatherill'

by LESLIE PARKER

THE COMING of next month will make it three years since Mrs. Weatherill first came to Coombe Farm and in these years she has done some quite amazing things.

I would like to talk for a minute or so about Mrs. Weatherill the teacher. Her syllabus is very varied and covers a wide range of subjects, to mention a few of these . . . English, History, Mathematics, Poetry. I would like to take one or two of these in a little more detail.

Naturally enough, when Mrs. Weatherill first came she wanted to find out what we had been doing with the previous teacher and so, each of her students did an essay on what Coombe Farm meant to them as regards their daily living here; from the result she got some kind of an idea of what our capabilities were.

**English Grammar.** This is the subject at which I am weak, but thanks to Mrs. Weatherill I have improved.

**History.** This subject is extremely interesting, or should I say, she makes it so; up to the time the classes finished for this term we were talking about 'The opening up of Trade Routes between England and other Countries'. Anyone who has heard Mrs. Weatherill lecture in class will know that she is extremely interesting and what is more important, she can hold her students' attention.

We have put on two plays; the first being 'The Purple Planet', the plot concerning two races living in space and their being at War with one another; a man from Earth, however, comes to act as ambassador and manages to bring the 'two races' together and live happily. The second play ('All in the Mind'), was also produced by Mrs. Weatherill. This Christmas we put on a brand new version of 'The Nativity Play, and like all the plays staged by Mrs. Weatherill, it was very good.

Last year in class we did a project on London and to enable us to gather information, Mrs. Weatherill organised two trips, the first being a grand tour around London and on this occasion we had a 'guide' to take us around which made it much more interesting. I have always wanted to see London in this way and it really was a dream come true. The second outing was to Greenwich, but unfortun-



Mrs. Esther Weatherill

nately, I was unable to go as numbers had to be cut down in view of the heavy lifting involved; but judging from accounts I heard, a very interesting and enjoyable time was had by all who participated.

That was last year . . . now for this year.

1966 proved more successful still, inasmuch as three trips were organised; one to Canterbury Cathedral and two to Coventry. I would like, once again, to take these last two in a little more detail. Mr. Weatherill, who is also a teacher, joined forces with Mrs. Weatherill by integrating pupils from his school with the residents from Coombe Farm (six pupils from the school) all of whom paid a visit to Coventry. This occasion was so successful that it was decided to have another outing to the same place for those residents who do not attend further education classes and on this occasion they were joined by girls from Grandison College; consequently, we now have connections with two schools.

Every week we have educational films, these being closely linked with the work we do in classes; we have recently had some very good films on first aid.

I consider myself fortunate to be in the classes organised by Mrs. Weatherill and would say 'Thank you, Mrs. Weatherill' for all you have done for Coombe Farm.

## Christmas at the Arundel

WE ARRIVED at the Arundel Hotel on Christmas Eve and received a most warm welcome; a lighted Christmas tree was shining out from the porch and the hotel was beautifully decorated. After supper Miss Fifield gave a film show which was enjoyed by all, and for the rest of the evening some guests were playing billiards, others packing parcels and some watching television.

On Christmas Day, after breakfast, we had a surprise visit from Father Christmas and the guests and staff received at least two gifts each. In the evening the guests gathered in the lounge for a 'get-together', everyone joining in community singing and some of the staff gave a very amusing sketch in mime called 'Emergency Ward 9½' which caused much laughter. A poignant moment was when three very amusing recitations were given by a 90-year-old lady who was a guest at the hotel, and songs were sung by two very small girls, also guests. A delightful evening was had by all—and so to bed.

On Boxing Day, in the evening, everyone went to the Cliffs Pavilion to see the film 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'.

On Tuesday all the guests were taken to the local pantomime, 'Dick Whittington', and on Wednesday The Footlight Players invited everyone at the hotel to attend their variety show, free of charge. This was enjoyed by guests and staff alike.

To round off the Christmas holiday, a surprise dinner party was given by Miss Maddock and Mr. Jack Hughes (houseparent accompanying the Ponds guests). The guests dined by candlelight and afterwards everyone gathered in the lounge to see the New Year in. This party was indeed a happy ending to a very enjoyable Christmas.

Charles Jory (Houseparent).

### ADVERTISEMENT

'Make Your Own Rug. Complete Kit for 27in. by 54in., 25s.; 36in. by 72in., 37s. 6d. S.a.e., Samples Winwood Textiles, Kidderminster'.



# BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER ●●●

## FEBRUARY

1st	Baldwins & Elba Club, Crumlyn Burrows, Swansea	J. Rea
1st	Pontnewydd Workmen's Club, Chapel Street, Pontnewydd, Mon.	K. Kennerley
2nd	Merthyr Cons. Club, Masonic Street, Merthyr Tydfil, Mon.	J. Rea
2nd	Courtybella Works Club, Cardiff Road, Newport, Mon.	K. Kennerley
3rd	Abertyswg Workmen's Club, Walter Street, Abertyswg, Mon.	J. Rea
6th	Babbington Colliery Club, New Basford, Nottingham	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley
6th	Little Lever Labour Club, Church Street, Little Lever, Bolton	J. Rea
7th	Longsight Cricket Club, East Road, Longsight, Manchester	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley
8th	Thames Board Sports Club, Manchester Road, Warrington	J. Gardner and J. Rea
9th	Dial House Sports Club, Wisegood, Sheffield, 6	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley
9th	Shipley A.E.U. Club, Caroline Street, Shipley, Yorks.	J. Rea
10th	Eastwood Cons. Club, Dalton Lane, Keighley, Yorks.	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley
10th	Hartshead Workmen's Club, Hartshead, Liversedge, Yorks	J. Rea
13th	Allerton Cons. Club, Heath Road, Liverpool	J. Gardner and J. Rea
14th	British Legion Club, Ellesmere Port, Wirral, Ches.	J. Gardner and J. Rea
15th	Millbrook Cons., Millbrook, Stalybridge, Ches.	J. Gardner and J. Rea
16th	British Legion Club, Hardwick Square, Buxton, Derbys.	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley
16th	Bromford Club, Harrison, Erdington, Birmingham	J. Rea
17th	Kirkham Cons. Club, Ribby Road, Kirkham, Lancs.	J. Rea
20th	Reddish Reform Club, Broadstone, Reddish, Stockport	J. Gardner and J. Rea
21st	Irlam Cons. Club, Astley Road, Irlam, Manchester	J. Gardner and J. Rea
22nd	St. Annes Cons., Clifton Drive North, St. Annes-on-Sea	J. Gardner and J. Rea
23rd	Leigh Labour Club, Abbey Street, Leigh, Lancs.	J. Gardner and J. Rea
27th	United Veterans Club, Duke Street, Bolton	J. Rea
28th	Skegness Workmen's Club, Briar Way, Skegness, Lincs	J. Rea
28th	Whitehill Club, Bordon, Hants.	J. Gardner and K. Kennerley

## SNOOKER EXHIBITION AT CROYDON RAISES RECORD SUM

AN EXHIBITION of snooker at Croydon Conservative Club on Thursday, 1st December, by champions Jack Rae and Joyce Gardner, raised a record £315 16s. 9d. for spastics.

This is the largest sum ever raised at an exhibition snooker match in aid of spastics, and it beats the figure raised at last year's exhibition at Croydon Conservative Club by over £104.

Jewellery made by spastics and snooker equipment was auctioned by Joyce Gardner during the evening and helped towards the total. Due to the hard work of the committee and the support of the players, matches have been staged for the past five years at the club and each year a larger sum has been raised.

The exhibition was one of many which are given all over the country for spastics by Irish Professional Champion, Jack Rae and Women's Champion, Joyce Gardner.

After the exhibition the members entertained the players to supper.

## EMPLOYMENT NEWS

The following news has been received recently:—

**JOYCE BULLOCK** from Horley, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre, is now working in the Redemption Department of Green Shield Trading Stamps Co., at Edgware.

**BRIAN COSTELLO** from Ealing, who trained at Sherrards, has commenced employment with the Bamber Engineering Company as a trainee in the gear-cutting section.

**CHRISTINE DAVIS** from Shirehampton, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre has changed her job and has now commenced a trial period of employment at Remploy. She is using a sewing machine and doing cutting-out work.

**EILEEN SPINK** from Abbots Langley, who trained at the Chester Office Training Centre, has now completed her probationary period of employment with British Railways at Watford, and is employed on the permanent staff as a junior clerk.

**DIANE TWINE** from Petersfield, has now obtained a local daily domestic post.



(Courtesy: Buxton Advertiser)

**A CHAMPION'S EXHIBITION AT BUXTON:** Irish champion, the popular billiards player, Jackie Rae, seen above with some admiring fellow-enthusiasts, when he was giving an exhibition at the Chapel Memorial Institute. (Left to right): Messrs. Eric Taylor, Fred Winterbottom, William Chadwick, Steve Jones and Donald Fletcher.

£80 11s. 0d. was raised for the Society on this occasion when the champion beat Chapel, 238-195. A local player, Mr. Donald Fletcher, however, drew with him in a match, 64-64, for which achievement he was given a cue and case





'Not me', said Sun,  
'it's my turn to shine'

## *Troth—the little pink cloudlet*

by Ann Hughes

TROTH, the little pink cloudlet, sat alone, high up in the wide, bright blue sky, with not another cloud to be seen, not even her best friends *Bellablue* and *Pearldrop*, or even *Drizzle* (a colourless little cloud) who usually lurked about.

Only the sun, large and round and hot, gazed down on Earth.

'Oh Sun, why don't you go away for a day or two to let the Earth cool a little?' asked Troth.

'Not me, it's my turn to shine', said Sun, and with those words he closed his eyes and just sat there and refused to budge.

Poor Earth, thought *Troth* as she looked down, how sad for all the Flowers and the Trees and the little empty Streams . . . for she knew that they had not had a drop of rain for weeks, if only I could give them rain. It made her very cross with *Lumpi* (a very large ugly-shaped grey cloud) and very, very cross with *Blackstorm*, a really enormous cloud. They were just plain lazy and very selfish not to give Earth some rain, but she knew they had absolutely no feelings at all for Earth. In fact when they squabbled, which they all too often did, they just poured out rain-drops, swamping Earth regardless of ruining the hay and wheat.

She wept a few little rain-drops, but alas, the Sun had dried them long before they could touch one flower.

Oh you poor Roses, thought *Troth*, so marred with brown edges, and you sad Dahlias with your lovely coloured heads hanging low on your tall watery stems!

It's worse for the flowers, at least the trees have their roots deep down in Earth, but even they love to have their leaves washed in Summer rain. After all, trees are proud things, and love to wave their branches all shiny and clean.

Ah, and those little streams, no longer swirling their water against their banks, now only dank wet mud.

*Troth* drifted along feeling more sad, but then she said to herself angrily, I am going to talk to *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm* very seriously, it's the only thing to do.

It was easier said than done, they were nowhere in sight. However, after floating for many hours, she found them, naturally, being very lazy, just idly chatting.

At first they just ignored her, but small as she was, *Troth* was a persistent little cloudlet.

'Now you listen to me', said *Troth*, 'you have just got to help Earth, and all the Flowers and Trees, they are dying of thirst and only you can help them. Sun simply refuses to go away—not even for a little while'.

'Why should we help?' said *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, 'We work quite hard enough most of the year as it is'.

'Oh yes', retorted *Troth*, 'I know how you two work—just when it suits you'!

'Well, even we need a rest sometimes', sulkily replied *Lumpi*, 'And anyway, Sun wouldn't like it'.

'Oh for heavens sake', exclaimed *Troth*, 'Sun has his way on most parts of Earth. Just because I am only a small pink cloudlet, you think that I don't count, but you will see', and with that she drifted off more angry than ever.

I wonder where in the Heavens have *Bellablue* and *Pearldrop* got to, thought *Troth*, I must find them. Once more she floated and floated looking everywhere for them, and getting very tired. At last Sun decided to go to bed, so it made it a bit easier for Earth, though after all those sun-rays she knew the Flowers and Trees would then feel very cold and miserable, and still very thirsty.

Suddenly, she saw her friends, and she floated up to them so fast that she nearly bumped them—but not quite.

'Thank Heavens I have found you two', she cried, 'I badly need your help'.

'Oh, and why?' asked *Bellablue* and *Pearldrop* together.

'Because', said *Troth*, 'There is a little part of Earth that is dying for the want of raindrops, much more than all of us can give'.

'Well then', said *Bellablue*, 'How can we help'?



The flowers and trees had not had a drop of rain for weeks





'Why should we help?' said Lumpi and Blackstorm

'Well', said *Troth*, 'I have a plan which I will tell you in a minute. Now, first thing in the morning you will come with me and look down and see all those lovely Flowers and stately Trees wilting and dying for the want of raindrops. When you have seen them I know you will do all you can to help'.

As Sun rose, *Troth*, *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* gazed down.

'Yes, we do see what you mean', said *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* both together, 'So, what is your plan?'

'Now my plan is this', said *Troth*, 'We will all go in different directions—you, *Bellablu*, will collect all the blue cloudlets and you, *Pearldrop*, will collect all the pearly cloudlets, and I will collect all the pink cloudlets, do you understand?'

'Oh yes, oh yes, we understand, but where are we going to meet when we have collected all our cloudlets?' they asked eagerly.

'Um, yes', said *Troth*. 'That is very important. Well, first we must meet long before Sun is too high in the sky, then together we will find *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm* and all the other clouds. When we see them from a little distance, we will each take our own cloudlets and we will surround them . . .'

'Oh', said *Bellablu*, 'But what good will that do?'

'Well, I'm not quite sure yet', said *Troth*, 'But first we will tell them that they must help'.

'But what if they refuse?' asked *Pearldrop*.

'Then we will have to be very firm', said *Troth*—for *Troth*, small and dainty as she was, was, as we know, quite a determined little cloudlet.

'Now, off you go and gather as many cloudlets as you can, and don't take no for an answer. Oh, and if either of you see *Drizzle*, collect her too'.

Then they went off in their different directions.

Just before Sun was too high, *Troth*, *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* all gathered together with their cloudlets and set off to find *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, with *Drizzle* tagging along behind.

It took quite a time to find them, but at last they did, and quietly floating round on their tip-toes, they managed to completely surround *Lumpi*, *Blackstorm*, and all their grey and black clouds.

Then *Troth* called out in a small but clear piping voice:

'*Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, we demand you give Earth some raindrops, in fact an enormous amount of raindrops as you have been so selfish with them.'

'Ho, ho, ho!' laughed *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, 'You "demand" do you, young *Troth*? and they nearly spilt some raindrops laughing so much.

*Troth* then whispered to *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* (and *Drizzle*, of course) 'When I say "go", then all together we float as fast as we can and prod *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, and just go on and on, prodding until we make them so angry that in their fury they will spill so much rain and not be able to stop'.

So all together, under *Troth*'s leadership, this is what they did.

When Sun saw *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm* with all their grey and black clouds spilling so much rain in their anger, he slid quietly behind them and beckoned to *Rainbow* to spread herself over Earth. As *Rainbow* came out and spread herself, *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm* gradually lost their anger and rather contrite now, willingly sent their raindrops steadily down to Earth.

*Troth*, *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* (and *Drizzle* of course), looked down to Earth and what they saw made them so happy.

They saw the Rose petals unfolding in their lovely colours of red, pink and yellow, also the white ones no longer with brown edges.

They saw the Dahlias lifting their lovely coloured heads on their tall slender stems.

They saw the Trees swaying and waving their spread-out branches now all clean and glistening as the rain flowed down upon them, washing their leaves and feeding their parched roots.

And they saw the little streams clasping the raindrops and rushing and swirling along the banks to give water to all the tree-roots, wild flowers and little fishes.

Then, with a big sigh of happiness, *Troth* thanked all the little coloured cloudlets and said to them:

'Now, off you go and have a lovely game round *Rainbow*', and as the little coloured cloudlets frisked away, *Troth* turned to her best friends, *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop* (and *Drizzle*, of course) and said, 'I don't know how you feel after our big day, but I feel a little tired . . .'

'Me, too', said *Bellablu*, and 'Me, too', said *Pearldrop*.

'And me too,' chimed in *Drizzle*.

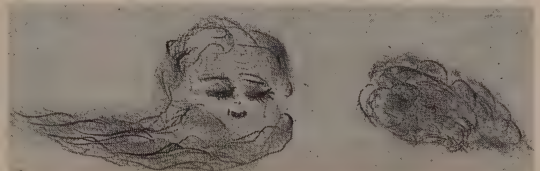
*Troth* looked up at *Rainbow* with Sun behind. She looked down at *Lumpi* and *Blackstorm*, still quietly sending down their rain to Earth.

Somewhat puzzled, she said:

'It wasn't really difficult for them to help us, was it? Well, dear *Bellablu* and *Pearldrop*, goodbye . . .'

'Goodbye . . .' they called as they floated off.

Then *Troth*, the little pink cloudlet, turned to *Drizzle*, and gave her a very special smile as she gently floated away—soon she had drifted into sleep.



*Troth* smiled at *Drizzle* and drifted into sleep



## Do You Agree?

What is a home, without a mother?  
You may say, I have a sister or a brother,  
But when all's said and done,  
There is no one, just like mum.

What are houseparents?  
Are they expected to be,  
Just like a mum,  
Or rather, like an older sister or a brother?

This may add to confusion,  
When children are young,  
Or do little children, think,  
That their family has grown.

A child may be independent,  
In one way or another, others,  
No mean's of communication, except by  
actions,  
To convey his need of another.

There are no age limits,  
I do dare to say, at sometime,  
When someone, is not missing their  
mother.

Children get fractious, we don't  
understand,  
To adults they are tiresome,  
When we are not in the mood,  
It is better to listen, and smooth away  
cares.

When we are cross, it makes matters  
worse,  
This can be contagious,  
Especially in a group.

What ever they can do, is well worth  
praise,  
Just keep them busy, and they won't get  
bored,  
No need to fuss or go up in smoke,  
Just try it, you'll get your reward.

One thing more before I go,  
Please, do not have favourites,  
At least, do not show it,  
Fair play is, treat all alike,  
Reward, one big happy family.  
HOUSEPARENT.

## A YEAR'S ISSUES OF 'SPASTICS NEWS' BOUND IN ONE HANDSOME VOLUME

This specially designed binder, strongly made with stiff corners and attractively  $\frac{1}{2}$  bound in maroon Leathercloth and black Milskin, will hold each month's issue firmly and effectively until complete.

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## A Guinea

### for Your Thoughts!

WE like to hear from our readers; anecdotes, reaction to articles in the 'News', or comments on life in general, both grave and gay—all are welcome, and, for correspondents who are spastics, there's 10s. 6d. for each letter published.

Parents, too, will like to air their views on the treatment or progress of their children, or even Society policy and such matters.

So, don't be shy! Let's make the Letters to the Editor section, in 1967, a really lively forum of opinion. It is already a valuable part of the two-way communications between Park Crescent and the Regions—but it could be more interesting still.

In order to encourage readers to write, we are offering a special one guinea prize for the best letter published in each of the next three issues.

And if you can't write it yourself, it is no bar to the award, if you get someone else to type for you.

N.B.—By the way, where possible, please include a photograph (glossy, black and white), it will be carefully looked after, and returned after use.—THE EDITOR.

#### DEATH OF THE DIRECTOR— 'A GREAT SHOCK'

Dear Editor,

It was with a sense of great shock, sadness and loss that I received the news of the death of Dr. Stevens.

I suppose I was one of the few spastic persons who knew him well and to whom he often confided his anxieties and concern about us. Many people have said he was a kind and gentle man. To those of us who are spastic, he was more than this. He had an abiding love and deep human feeling for all who suffered and was one of the few people who was able to communicate with us on equal terms and able to make us feel that we were wanted for ourselves. Need I say more than that his memorial is in the hearts of all of us he tired himself out in helping. It is indeed tragic that he did not live to know just how much we felt about him. I am sure that, through me, every spastic in this country would wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family of nine children.

Yours sincerely, BILL HARGREAVES (62 Club Organiser).

#### BROADSTONES APPRECIATED

Dear Editor,

A lot has already been said no doubt about the very complex problems of running a hostel and works like that at Birmingham.

Well, speaking from a purely personal point of view, I am very much aware of the debt which I owe the Society in giving me a place in such a vast project as Birmingham represents in terms of money, courage and foresight in planning

for the future generations of spastics who will pass through here in years to come.

Finally I would ask anyone who doubts the wisdom of building a place like this, to remember that although it may be difficult and costly to run, its benefits in terms of human happiness cannot be assessed strictly in an economic light.

For this reason and many others I look forward to 1967 as a very happy and progressive year at Birmingham Works and hostel.

Yours faithfully, C. LEES, Broadstones, Broadstone Road, Yardley, Birmingham, 26.

#### HIS FIRST DIP

Dear Editor,

I am a heavily handicapped resident of Wakes Hall Spastic Centre, run by the Stars' Organisation for Spastics and am spending a holiday at Colwall Court, Bexhill, run by the same Organisation.

I have just done something which I thought would never be possible. I have had my first dip in the swimming pool here. The Housefather—who being Irish like myself has the same brand of humour—you never know what is going to happen next, night or day. We spend our

(Continued overleaf)



**BRIGHTON TO LONDON WALK:** A group of marchers from the Household Cavalry setting off in the rain to march to London in competition with nurses from Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill. Cpl. Andrew Rymer won in 11 hrs. 3½ mins. They collected for spastics on the way



## Letters

### to the Editor (Cont'd)

time daring each other with the result we get into terrific predicaments, which sometimes have serious consequences through political arguments. He is a strong Tory supporter and I am exactly opposite.

I wonder if other spastics like myself get infinite pleasure—as I do—when they meet people who share the same interests as themselves? When I meet these people, which so rarely happens, I do tend to get carried away. I wonder—do they realise what immense pleasure this gives. It gives me a great uplift for anybody to share my interests. That is to say—music, engineering and politics.

I am glad to see in SPASTICS NEWS that some people are bringing to the notice of the public, that although we are bodily handicapped, thank God some of us are not mentally handicapped also.

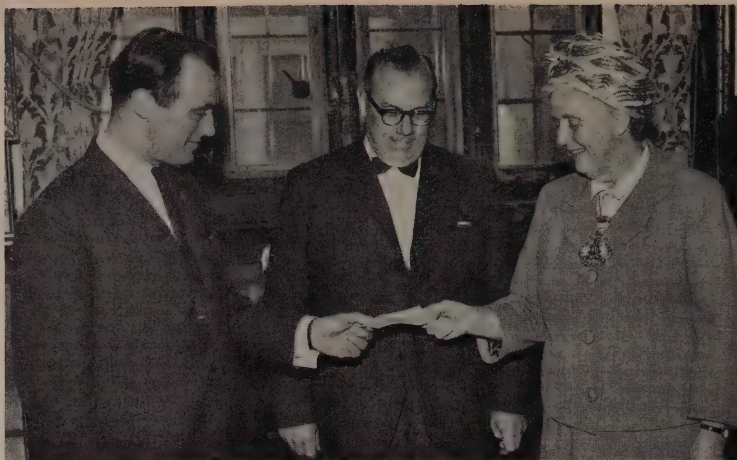
If they could only get to know us better they would have a different outlook which would benefit all round.

Yours sincerely, AUSTIN BYRNE (The Irishman), Colwall Court, Bexhill.

#### HAPPY AT THE BEDFORD

Dear Editor,

My son, Edward, is at the Bedford, Buxton, and we managed to get there for



(Courtesy: Western Times)

Mr. P. G. Downs (left), President of Exeter Lions Club, seen presenting a cheque for £650 raised by the Club with a Donkey Derby, to the Mayor of Exeter, Ald. Mrs. M. Nichols, who then handed it to Mr. Charles Vbranch, Chairman Exeter and Torbay Society

the official opening and we thought it was a lovely place and our son is very happy there.

Going by coach from here, it took us 13 hours each way and it was also quite expensive. We are both over 70 years of age but we do like to see our son at least once a year. He cannot come home now, as we are in an old people's bungalow and there is not room for him and his chair.

We are very thankful for all you have done for spastics and it makes us very happy to know that Edward is so well

cared for and leading a much fuller life than he would do otherwise.

Yours sincerely, Mrs. C. WITHECOMBE, 39 Hastings Road, Castle Lane, Bournemouth, Hants.

#### IT'S ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE!

A BEDSTEAD RACE, a slave market sacrifice off Hammersmith Bridge, a sex battle—and possibly the invasion of France by raft!

That's part of the programme arranged by the Hammersmith Art College and West London College of Commerce for their Rag Week in aid of spastics. They hope to raise £2,000, so remember the date:

MARCH 4-11

and help these gallant students all you can!

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM

for SPASTICS NEWS, the official monthly journal of The Spastics Society covering every aspect of its work and its Affiliated Societies.

Please send me SPASTICS NEWS every month until further notice at the annual subscription rate of 11s., including postage, starting with the.....issue.

I enclose a cheque/Postal Order herewith.

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CUT OUT and send to:

THE EDITOR, SPASTICS NEWS, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1

#### THE PARADOX OF SYMPATHY

Dear Editor,

'Spastics don't want sympathy, they just need a chance to prove themselves', runs a typical newspaper headline. This is all very well, but sooner or later somebody is going to say, 'If they don't want sympathy then they don't want my weekly shilling on the Pools and I needn't buy any more Christmas seals!'

The trouble partly lies in the word 'sympathy' itself which, like so many other examples of the English language has been used so loosely that it has come to mean quite different things to different people. The Oxford dictionary defines 'sympathy' as:—

'Being simultaneously affected with the same feelings: state of sharing another

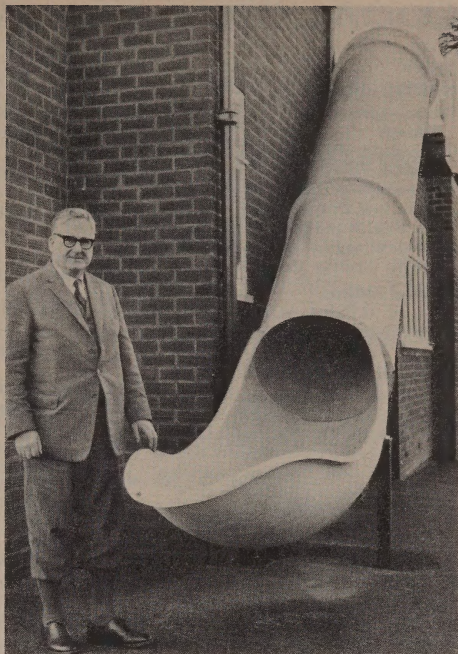


# Short Term Home Opens at York



(Courtesy: Yorkshire Post)

A five-bedroomed country house, Grimston House at Deighton, nr. York, opened in January, for the short-term residential care of spastic children. Miss Mary Coles (right) is the matron, and she will have a staff of five to manage the first intake of six children. Mr. Jack Bytheway (right), Secretary of York & District, is seen by the new fibre glass fire-escape chute. The home, which was bought for £11,600, has cost £1,800 to equip, and the bulk of the yearly running costs of £8,000 will have to come from local fund-raising efforts, says Mr. L. P. Day, Chairman of York & District Group



person's emotion, sensation or condition: mental participation in another's trouble . . . compassion (for): agreement in opinion or desire . . .

Chambers' says:—

'Like feeling: an agreement of inclination, feeling or sensation: compassion . . . a conformity of natural temperament. . . .

Thus 'sympathy for spastics' would literally appear to mean feeling the same as they do. ' . . . the state of sharing their condition . . . ' is obviously a physical impossibility, but 'sharing emotion or sensation . . . ' and ' . . . Mental participation in another's trouble . . . ' should be feasible with an effort of the imagination.

However, the average disabled person would probably prefer the effort to be something more than lip-service. He may feel, ungratefully, that it is not enough for the unhandicapped to merely place themselves in his shoes—descend to his level, as it were. He would like people to speak to him as an equal, not because they feel sorry for him. He wants to be allowed to be 'in sympathy' with the rest of the world, in fact.

He knows that he will never be able to compete with his fellows physically, but sees this as no reason why they should not accept him on other levels of everyday personal contact. He feels he is entitled to his full share of dignity and, only human, hates to be treated as a child or imbecile.

Relatives of a certain spastic are con-

stantly being asked 'And how is dear little Jane?' despite the fact that Jane is over thirty, leads a completely independent life and is no more ready than the next woman to suffer fools gladly. One expects (intellectually, if not emotionally) this kind of thing to be said about spastics, as some are, unfortunately, mentally handicapped as well, but apparently it happens with other disabilities too. 'Stigma', the collection of essays reviewed in the November issue of SPASTICS NEWS, gives several examples of this. The most notable instance was that of the man who found his wheelchair being gently rocked back and forth while its pusher carried on a conversation over his head with somebody else.

It is interesting to see how all twelve writers in 'Stigma', though suffering from many different types and degrees of handicaps, reach similar conclusions. Each is concerned with other people's attitudes, feeling that all too often the emphasis is on 'disabled' rather than 'person'. I think this is what many spastics mean when they say that they don't want sympathy. They just want to be taken seriously as people.

Paradoxically, of course, in order to raise funds, The Spastics Society has had to play on the public's heart-strings a little by showing appealing pictures of children. Unfortunately, the 'dear little things' image tends to persist after the children have grown up. In order to give the practical help which is still badly

needed, the Society must obviously continue to collect money by the most effective means at its disposal. On the other hand, individual spastics have a natural desire not to be patronised. It is hard to see how the two aims can be reconciled.

Yours sincerely, TRENDY ATHETOID (again).

## ADVERTISEMENT

THE CATHOLIC HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP wishes to appoint an Honorary Treasurer who would be a member of the Executive Committee and a Senior Officer of the Fellowship. The Fellowship is a small Catholic charity which is expanding its activities and the Treasurer's work will provide a stimulating challenge for a voluntary worker with a professional background in accountancy or similar work who wishes to contribute in this field. It would be convenient for someone resident in London or the Home Counties. Please write to Mr. John Williams, Honorary General Secretary, 6 Dormington Drive, Hereford.



# LOCAL GROUP PROVISION

## NORTH REGION

Berwick-upon-Tweed and District Spastics Society  
Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastics Society **WORTH**  
Darlington and District Spastics Society **H**  
Durham and District Spastics Society  
South Shields and District Spastics Society **C**  
Sunderland and District Spastics Society **CW**  
Tees-side Spastics Society **TE**

### Regional Officer:

Miss E. O'Kelly, M.B.E., 34/35 Saddler Street, Durham. Tel.: 2654

## YORKSHIRE REGION

Barnsley and District Association **C**  
Bradford and District Branch **R**  
Castleford and District Spastics Committee  
Dewsbury and District Spastics Society  
Goole and District Spastics Association  
Halifax and District Spastics Society **W**  
Huddersfield and District Spastics Society **O**  
Hull Group, The Friends of the Spastics Society in Hull and District **H**  
Leeds and District Spastics Society **O**  
Ponterfract and District Spastics Association  
Rawmarsh and Parkgate Spastics Society  
Sheffield and District Spastics Society **TOC**  
York and District Spastics Group **TC**

### Regional Officer:

Mr. R. J. F. Whyte, Royal Chambers, Station Parade, Harrogate. Tel.: 69655.

## MANCHESTER REGION

Barrow-in-Furness and District Spastic and Handicapped Children's Society **C**  
Blackburn and District Spastics Group **TC**  
Blackpool and Fylde Spastics Society **O**  
Bolton and District Spastics Society **TE**  
Burnley Area and Rossendale Spastics Group **T**  
Lancaster, Morecambe and District Spastics Society  
Manchester and District Spastics Society **TCE**  
Oldham and District Spastics Society **OCT**  
Preston and District Spastics Group **OCT**  
Sale, Altrincham and District Spastics Society **RTEC**  
Stockport, East Cheshire and High Peak Spastics Society **TEOC**  
Urmston and District Group **TC**  
Wigan and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Mr. G. R. Christie, Room 481, 4th Floor St. James's Buildings, 89 Oxford Street, Manchester 1. Tel.: Central 2088

### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. M. Moncaster, same address

## MERSEYSIDE and NORTH WALES REGION

Birkenhead Spastic Children's Society **TEOC**  
Caernarvonshire Spastics and Handicapped Peoples' Society  
Crosby, Bootle, Litherland and District Spastics Society **C**  
Warrington and District Group for the Welfare of Spastics **O**  
Chester and District Spastics Association **TCE**  
Colwyn Bay and District Spastics Society  
Crewe and District Spastics Society **TO**

Flint and District Spastics Society  
Montgomeryshire Spastics Society  
Southport, Formby and District Spastics Society **H**  
Widnes Spastic Fellowship Group

### Regional Officer:

Mr. F. Young, 6 King's Buildings, Chester. Tel.: Chester 27127.

### Regional Social Worker:

Miss E. Williams, same address

## EAST MIDLAND REGION

Boston District Branch  
Chesterfield and District Spastics Society **TOC**  
Derby and District Spastics Society **T**  
Grantham and District Friends of Spastics  
Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Friends of Spastics Society **T**  
Leicester and District Spastics Society **TC**  
Lincoln and District Spastics Society  
Loughborough and District Spastics Society  
Mansfield and District Friends of Spastics Group **O**  
Newark Area Spastics Society  
Northampton and County Spastics Society **TE**  
Nottingham and District Friends of Spastics Group **TEC**  
Scunthorpe and District Spastic Society  
Stamford and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Mr. T. H. O'Neill, Holland House, 43 Loughborough Road, Westbridgford, Nottingham, Tel.: 84357

### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. M. Lane, same address

## WEST MIDLAND REGION

Coventry and District Spastics Society **WO**  
Dudley and District Spastic Group **TOC**  
Herefordshire Spastics Society  
Kidderminster and District Spastics Association  
Midland Spastic Association **TEOWC**  
North Staffordshire Spastic Association **TO**  
Shropshire Spastics Society **H**  
Stafford and District Spastic Association **T**  
West Bromwich and District Spastics Society  
Wolverhampton and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Mr. I. C. R. Archibald, Vehicle and General House, Hurst St., Birmingham 5. Tel.: 643-3367

### Regional Social Worker:

Mr. M. Townsend, same address (apart from Birmingham and Worcestershire areas)

### Senior Welfare Officer, M.S.A. (Birmingham and Worcestershire areas):

Mrs. N. M. Barrett, 15 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham 17. Tel.: Harborne 3182 and 2458

## SOUTH WALES REGION (including Monmouthshire)

Cardiff and District Spastics Association **C**  
Kenfig Hill and District Spastics Society **CTO**  
Merthyr Tydfil and District Spastics Society  
Tel.: 4521  
Monmouthshire Spastics Society  
Pembrokeshire Spastics Society

Pontypridd and District Spastics Society  
Swansea and District Spastics Assoc. **TECW**

### Regional Officer:

Mr. B. Kingsley-Davies, 2 Saunders Road, Cardiff. Tel.: 25725

### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. P. A. Smith, 2 Saunders Road, Cardiff. Tel.: 29289

## WEST REGION

Bath and District Spastics Society  
Bridgwater and District Friends of Spastics Association **T**  
Bristol Spastics Association **CTOW**  
Cornish Spastics Society  
Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society **T**  
Plymouth Spastic (CP) Association **COETW**  
Weston and District Society for the Spastic and Mentally Handicapped **TR**  
Yeovil and District Spastics Welfare Society

### Regional Officer:

Mr. P. J. H. Pope, St. John House, Staple-grove Road, Taunton, Somerset. Tel.: 81678

### Regional Social Worker:

Miss H. M. Day, c/o Bristol Work Centre, Dovercourt Road, Bristol 7  
Mrs. S. N. Fox (part-time), St. John House, Staplegrave Road, Taunton, Somerset. Tel.: 81678

## EAST ANGLIA REGION

Braintree and North-West Essex Spastics Society  
Cambridge and District Spastics Society  
Chelmsford and District Spastics Society  
Clacton and District Spastics Society  
Colchester and District Group  
Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Society **TW**

King's Lynn and West Norfolk Spastics Society  
Lowestoft and N.E. Suffolk Spastics Society  
Norfolk and Norwich Spastics Association **W**  
Peterborough and District Spastics Group **O**  
Southend-on-Sea and District Spastics Society **OC**  
Thurrock and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Mr. H. G. Knight, 51 Newnham Road, Cambridge. Tel.: 61747

### Regional Social Worker:

Mrs. G. J. Thorn, 53A Head Street, Colchester.

## WESSEX REGION

Andover and District Spastics Society  
Basingstoke and District Spastics Society  
Bournemouth, Poole and District Spastics Society **CTE**  
Cheltenham and District Spastics Association **ETC**  
Gloucester and District Spastics Association  
Isle of Wight Spastics Society **TE**  
Portsmouth and District Spastics Society **W**  
Salisbury and District Spastics Association  
Southampton and District Spastics Association **TOWCE**  
Swindon and District Spastics Society **H**  
Winchester and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

Miss C. Mould, 7 St. John Street, Salisbury.

### Regional Social Worker:

Mr. R. Jenkinson, same address



## NORTHERN HOME COUNTIES REGION

Bedford and District Branch **TOWEC**  
 Bishop's Stortford and District Group,  
 Herts Spastics Society  
 East Herts Group, Herts Spastics Society  
 Friends of Ponds Home  
 Hatfield and District Spastics Society  
 Hemel Hempstead and District Group, Herts  
 Spastics Society  
 Hitchin, Letchworth and Stevenage Spastics  
 Society  
 Luton, Dunstable and District Spastics  
 Group **TEC**  
 Maidenhead Friends of Spastics Group  
 Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society **TOC**  
 Reading and Berkshire Spastics Welfare  
 Society **T**  
 Slough and District Spastics Welfare Society  
 St. Albans and District Group, Herts  
 Spastics Society **T**  
 Watford and District Group, Herts Spastics  
 Society **TEOC**  
 Welwyn Garden City and District Group,  
 Herts Spastics Society  
 Wycombe and District Spastics Society **CT**

### Regional Officer:

Mr. R. C. Lemarie, 524 St. Alban's Road,  
 North Watford. Tel.: 41565

### Regional Social Workers:

Miss U. M. Ballance, same address.  
 Tel.: 41059  
 Miss C. A. Cuming (part-time), Area Social  
 Work Office, Castle Priory, Thames St.,  
 Wallingford, Berks. Tel.: Wallingford 2551

## SOUTH-EAST REGION

Brighton, Hove and District Spastics Soc. **OC**  
 Canterbury and Kent Coast Spastics Group  
 Central Surrey Group  
 East Sussex Group **C**  
 Folkestone Group **H**

Horsham, Crawley and District Spastic  
 Society  
 Maidstone Area Spastic Group **OT**  
 Medway Towns Branch **T**  
 North Hants and West Surrey Group **TECO**  
 North-West Surrey Group **TEOC**  
 South-East Surrey Group **TOC**  
 South-West Surrey Group **TEOC**  
 Thanet Group  
 Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Area Group  
 West Sussex Spastics Group  
 Worthing, Littlehampton & District Spastics  
 Society **W**

### Regional Officer:

Mr. H. J. I. Cunningham, 29b Linkfield  
 Lane, Redhill, Surrey. Tel.: Redhill 63944  
 and 62250

### Regional Social Workers:

Mrs. Vera Chinchin, same address  
 Miss J. M. Goldie (part-time), same address

## LONDON REGION

### Regional Officer:

(North of the Thames)  
 Mr. N. J. Goldfrap, 28 Fitzroy Sq., London,  
 W.1. Tel.: Euston 2436

Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare Society **W**  
 East London Spastics Society **H**  
 Epping Forest and District Branch **TO**  
 Ilford, Romford and District Spastics  
 Association **O**  
 North London Area Association of Parents  
 and Friends of Spastics **T**  
 North-West London Spastics Society **W**  
 South-West Middlesex Group  
 Walthamstow and District Spastics Society

### Regional Officer:

(South of the Thames)  
 Mr. Alan Henderson, 28 Fitzroy Sq., Lon-  
 don, W.1. Tel.: Euston 2436).

Croydon and District Spastics Society **TEWC**  
 North Surrey Group **W**

North-West Kent Spastics Group **WO**  
 South-East London Group **T**  
 South London Group  
 South-West London and District Group  
 West Kent Spastics Society **W**

Guernsey Spastics Society  
 Jersey Spastics Society  
 Northern Ireland Council for Orthopaedic  
 Development (Inc.)

### Chief Regional Officer:

Mr. A. M. Frank, M.C., M.A.

### Schools and Centres Secretary:

Mrs. C. A. Clifton

### Social Work and Employment Secretary:

Miss M. R. Morgan, M.B.E.

### Acting Projects Secretary:

Mr. M. R. H. Stopford  
 All at 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

### Senior Regional Officer (North):

Group-Capt. W. A. L. Davis, C.B.E., D.F.C.,  
 A.F.C., c/o Yorkshire Office

### Senior Regional Officer (West):

Mr. D. S. Hutcheson, 43 Bridge St., Taun-  
 ton, Somerset. Tel.: Taunton 82489

### Senior Regional Officer (East):

Brig. C. V. Halden, M.B.E., T.D., M.A.,  
 Harrold House, Harrold, Beds. Harrold 257

## KEY TO LOCAL GROUPS

**T**—Treatment Available  
**E**—Education  
**O**—Occupational Centre  
**W**—Work Centre  
**H**—Holiday Home  
**C**—Child Care  
**R**—Residential Centre

*Thank you, readers, for the splendid response to our  
 advertisement for jewellery hand-set by spastics working  
 at home, but we still have some supplies of attractive  
 marcasite brooches etc. available. What about a  
 present for mother on Mother's Day (5th March)?  
 please send for an illustrated colour brochure to:*

THE HOMEWORK SECTION  
 THE SPASTICS SOCIETY  
 12 PARK CRESCENT  
 LONDON, W.1.



## Circus Star Rogana visits Society's Stand



The Society took a small stand at Bertram Mills' Funfair and Rogana, the dazzling equilibrist of the Circus visited it wearing her magnificent head-dress of feathers, and was presented with a pair of spastics-made ear-rings by Mrs. Marianne West.